10

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Urban Sanitary District of Fulwood.

For year ending December 31st, 1893.

JOHN GARTH,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

W. Fazackerley, Printer, Union Street, Preston.

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

FOR THE

Urban Sanitary District of Fulwood.

For the Year ending December 31st, 1893.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE BOARD.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting to you my First Annual Report, that for the past year 1893.

In this report, dealing as it it will with the sickness and mortality which has occured during the year, with Sanitary progress, and the steps taken to preserve the public health. I shall of necessity touch upon matter which you are already accquainted with, and upon which you have bestowed valuable time aud patience, in fact, such a report can be little more than a summary of your monthly deliberation.

The amount of Mortality is the standard by which a sanitary condition of any given District is judged ; in this respect then Fulwood will compare well with any throughout the County, having a birth-rate of 27·5, and a death-rate of 13·9 per 1,000, this on an estimated population of 2,288 exclusive of public Institutions in the districts ; compared with the previous year 1892 it is a decided improvement ; the birth-rate was 20·4 per thousand, and the death-rate 13·7 per thousand.

The rate of Infant Mortality measured by the proportion of death under 1 year to 1,000 births was very favourable and much below the greater bnlk of the County Urban Districts :—95·2.

The rate of Infantile Mortality under 5 years shows a still greater improvement over the rest of the County Urban Districts.

Dealing with the various causes of death it is very gratifying to know that not one single death occured from any of the Zymotic Diseases.

Scarlet Fever.—This was scattered throughout the district in a mild form; on the information coming to me I made enquiries as to its cause, and gave the necessary instructions to prevent its spread; in nearly all the cases I found the people had been where it was, or that some one had visited them that had been in contact with infected dwellings or persons. The houses were thoroughly stoved and disinfected on the recovery of patients. Several cases occured in the Barracks; on my visit I was informed that proper precautions had been taken against its spread.

Harris Orphanage—Here also two cases occured in the last month of the year. The cause of infection most probably from visitors; the boys where removed to the Harris Ward of the Royal Infirmary, and the Orphanage underwent a thorough cleansing and disinfecting. I suggested to Mr. Jolly, the governor, that he should have a notice printed in the regulations and posted forbidding any one under penalty to visit the Institution if they had any infectious sickness at home or recently been in contact with any infected person.

Typhoid Fever—No cases occured in the district proper, but an out-break occured in the **Fulwood Workhouse,** and as this is in your Sanitary District I presume your Medical Officer was bound to make an enquiry therein; the out-break occured during the month of August, there being between 30 and 40 cases and six deaths are recorded from the disease, and as

there are amongst the young, viz: 5 between the ages of 5 and 10 years, and 1 between 2 and 5 years they are to be more deplored. Now as this is a disease connected with filth, dirt, or bad water supply, it is one that ought not to occur, and one in which Sanitary Reform has nearly annihilated. I visited the Institution and held a consultation with the Medical Officer of the Institution, who was quite convinced as to its origin in the place, and no doubt arose from bad drainage and water-closets; these have been attended to, and he hopes that no further outbreak will occur. I believe a new plan for drainage is under consideration.

Cholera—A little scare was produced in the district owing to the arrival of a vessel in the port of Hull from St. Petersburgh bringing passengers from Cholera districts, your Medical Officer paid a visit to Mr. Seed and Family of 2, Mount Place, Cadley, on their arrival home, and had to congratulate them on their good health, no sickness having occured on the vessel during her voyage home which was a long one. I concluded that there was no danger of infection from this source.

Whooping Cough—No case in the district, but one in the Workhouse.

Dysentry—One in an aged person, but calls for no special comment.

Consumption:—Caused three deaths.

Pneumonia:—Caused five deaths.

Bronchitis:—Caused Five deaths.

The unclassified deaths, or those due to "Other diseases" number 7, and are such chronic or acute affections attacking the various organs of the body that do not either by their duration or results, come strictly under the supervision or control of a Sanitary Authority.

Seeing the large number of important Institutions in the Boards district, and the low Zymotic death-rate Nil., I wish to

call your attention to the necessity of keeping a watchful eye on everything likely to endanger the healthiness of this admirable Suburb. Although no deaths were recorded from any of the Zymotic diseases, you have had a number of cases, therefore require to have more control over the spread least an Epidemic break out, now the notification of Infectious Diseases Act is just what the Board requires, and I hope you will see the importance of its early adoption, as by its power your Medical Officer might be able to prevent or nip in the bud what might have been a serious out-break.

DRAINAGE.

I wish also to draw your attention to the importance of good drainage. I note that a number of deaths are due to Pneumonia and Phthisis; now a damp soil more or less favours the spread of these diseases, As Fulwood is well situated for drainage, I would impress upon the Board the necessity of the Surveyor seeing all house drains before being covered in.

INSANITARY DWELLINGS.

In January I visited, along with the Inspector, the Thatched Cottage adjoining Smith's farm, Sharoe Green Lane, and found it in such a bad Sanitary condition that I recommended the board to have it closed but for some reason it has not been and still exists in the same unhealthy condition This Cottage along with the adjoining farm-stead I believe belongs to the Preston Board of Guardians, and both are in such a bad condition that they contemplate re-building; hence I suppose the delay.

HOSPITAL SITE.

This month I also visited the site of the small-pox Hospital belonging to the Preston Corporation being near to the Barracks and Fulwood, yet I thought it was sufficiently far away from any buildings to be out of danger as regards spreading the Infection so did not report the matter to the Board as was not requested to do.

COWSHED.

In January I also visited Shire Bank Farm and reported to the Board regarding a tank in the shippon and drains ; no action was taken, but since a new tenant occupies the farm and it is not now a dairy farm. The Shippon has been converted in stables and the drains rectified, so that no further notice need be taken of it, in its present use.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

In June on several occasions I visited the business premises of Messrs Ordloff and Shepperd, Sharoe Green Lane, both Gut Cleaners, and although found the business carried on very cleanly, a most disagreeable smell was caused from which frequent complaints had been made. I visited the place again in August and fouud the same bad smell, therefore advised the Board to issue notice to stop the same under "The Offensive Trades Act, 1875." Notice was given to both these gentlemen to attend your Board Meeting on the 31st of August, as also I attended to explain the nature of the business and its offences, the result of which both parties were ordered to cease carrying on their trades in the Boards district, but time was allowed them to find a suitable place; Mr. Ordloff promises to clear away by May 1894, whilst Shepperd was given a reasonable time but afterwards declined to go, however, proceedings were taken against him and the case tried in the Preston County Court with the result that he was fined 20s. and costs, or in default of distress one months imprisonment.

Nuisance in Long Sandy Lane.

On August 29th along with the Inspector, I visited a field in Long Sandy Lane in which a dead carcase was lying unburied from which the hide had been removed, it was left on the surface in full exposure to the sun, putrifaction had set in rapidly and a very disgusting smell eminated from it; as other animals

were in its im mediate neighbourhood it was a great source of danger to those as well as a nuisance to passers by. The owner, Richard Dewhurst, a butcher of Preston, was requested to bury it at a reasonable depth, but tried to defy the law with result that he was twice tried in the County Police Court for non-compliance, and in each case was fined heavily with costs.

Infectious Diseases Animals Act.

This is under the control of the County Police.—A number of cases of Swine Fever have occured in the district, but I have no report.

Farcy

One case of this disease attacked a horse belonging to Mr. R. Breakell, of Albert Road, the animal was killed and suitably buried.

Food and Drugs Act.

This is carried out under the Police Authority ; a number of samples have been taken, but I failed to get a record.

Slaughter House

I have visited the one near the Barracks, kept by Mr. Sumner, and found it kept very clean, but the floor requires cementing, which was promised to be done.

Bake-houses and Lodging-houses.

NONE IN THE DISTRICT TO REPORT.

River Pollution.

This Act is being vigourously carried out by the County Council Officers, and the streams in the neighbourhood have been kept much cleaner and purer than heretofore, as a number of offenders in this respect have ceased to pollute the streams.

Sewage.

The Brook that receives the sewage at present, and discharges itself into the river will very soon have the sewage matter removed, as the final details that have been pending between the Board and the Preston Corporation are now settled.

This has long been a great source of nuisance, and the Board are happy that it will soon cease.

In respect to the Sewage the Board have put down about half-a-mile of new mains along Garstang Road and contemplate laying down other large drains in the district.

Water Supply.

The Water Supply of the disttict is good, and although we had such a long spell of dry weather the supply was just sufficient without having to limit its inhabitants, yet it is as well to be prepared for all emergencies, so it has been well decided to apply to Parliament for further powers to enlarge or make a new reservoir as early as possible.

The farm occupied by Mr. Stevenson in Watling Street had not a proper water supply so that notice was given him through the Inspector to obtain or otherwise cease to continue the supply of milk in the district, however, he has since obtained a proper supply of water, and now continues his business.

Scavenging has been well carried out.

The Inspector has had no notices to serve.

Three houses have been inspected, and three fumigated.

In concluding this report I may say that I have made a number of visits through the district in order to accquaint myself as far as possible with all things pertaining to my duties as Medical Officer of Health; and if my duties have been obnoxious to a few they have only one object in view, the health and comfort of the inhabitants.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN GARTH,

Medical Officer of Health

TABLE I.

Deaths registered during the year 1893, in the Urban Sanitary District of Fulwood, classified according to Ages and Localities, and showing the Area and Population, and the Birth-rate and Death-rate therein during the year.

LOCALITY.	Area in Statute Acres.	Population at all ages.		Registered Births	Annual rate per 1000 of estimated population.					Rate of Infant Mortality measured by the proportion of deaths under 1 yr to 1000 births.	Mortality from all causes at subjoined ages						
		Census 1891.	Estimate to middle of 1893.		Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Death Rate from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases,	Phthisis Death Rate.	Respiratory Death Rate.		At all ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 60	60 and upwards
FULWOOD	2117	2250	2283	63	27·5	13·9	Nil	1·3	4·3	95·2	32	6	2	1	2	8	13
WORKHOUSE	...	657	814	45	55·2	189·1	11·6	24·57	39·26	355 5	154	15	9	7	3	59	61
BARRACKS	...	1045	1045	22	21·0	8·6	1·9	0·95	3·8	45·4	9	1	5	...	1	2	...
CONVENT LITTLE SISTERS	...	111	47	Nil	Nil	63·8	Nil	Nil	63·8	Nil	3	...	...	...	...	...	3
ORPHANAGE	...	51	150	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...

TABLE II.

Deaths registered during the year 1893, in the Urban Sanitary District of Fulwood, classified according to Diseases and Localities, and distinguishing Deaths of Children under five years of age.

LOCALITY.	Age at Death	Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under five years of age.																				
		Smallpox	Measles	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Croup	Whooping Cough	Continued Fevers. Typhus	Continued Fevers. Enteric or Typhoid	Continued Fevers. Other or doubtful	Diarrhœa or Dysentry	Cholera	Rheumatic Fever	Erysipelas	Pyæmia	Puerperal Fever	Ague	Phthisis	Bronchitis Pneumonia and Pleurisy	Heart Disease	Injuries	All other Diseases
FULWOOD	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	4
	5 & upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	6	5	...	10
WORKHOUSE	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...
	5 & upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	20	24	9	...	86
BARRACKS	Under 5	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	1
	5 & upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1
CONVENT LITTLE SISTERS	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	5 & upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...

TABLE III.

Number and cause of Deaths at different ages for the year ending Dec. 31st, 1893. FULWOOD.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 year.	1 to 2	2 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 40	40 to 50	50 to 60	60 to 70	70 to 80	80 to 90	90 to 100	TOTALS
Small-pox	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Typhoid	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Typhus	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Scarlatina	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Measles	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Whooping Cough	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Croup	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Diphtheria	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Dysentry or Diarrhœa	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Cholera	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Rheumatic Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Erysipelas	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Pyæmia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Puerperal Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Ague	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Phthisis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, & Pleurisy.	3	.....	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	3	1	.....	.....	10
Heart Disease	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	2	.....	2	.....	.....	5
Dibility	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Senilty	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	1	1	4
Teething, Convulsions & Premature Births	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
All other Diseases	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	1	2	.....	.....	7
	6	1	1	1	.....	2	1	2	5	6	5	1	1	32

TABLE IV.—BARRACKS.

	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 40	Totals.
SCARLET FEVER	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
PNEUMONIA	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	[illegible]	3
BRONCHITIS	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
PERITONITIS	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1
CONVULSIONS	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
PHTHISIS	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	[illegible]	1
	1	2	3	.....	.....	1	2	9

CONVENT LITTLE SISTERS.

	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 40	40 to 50	50 to 60	60 to 70	70 to 80	Totals
Bronchitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	....	2	1	3
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	2	1	3

TABLE V.

Number and cause of Deaths at different ages for the year ending Dec. 31st, 1893. WORKHOUSE

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 year.	1 to 2	2 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 40	40 to 50	50 ot 60	60 to 70	70 to 80	80 to 90	90 to 100	TOTALS
Small-pox	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Typhoid	.....	.....	1	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Typhus	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Scarlatina	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Measles	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Whooping Cough	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Croup	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Diphtheria	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Dysentry or	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Diarrhœa	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		1	.....	.....	.....	2
Cholera	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Rheumatic Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Erysipelas	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Septicæmia / Pyæmia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Puerperal Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Ague	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Phthisis	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	2	8	6	2	1	.....	.....	.....	20
Bronchitis,		2		1	.....		1	2	4	8	3	1	.....	22
Pneumonia, & Pleurisy.		2			.....			3	1			.....	.....	6
					.....							.....	.....	
Heart Disease	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3		2	2	2	.....	.....	9
Dibility	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	1	5	1	2	.....	.....	15
Senilty	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	3	14	3		21
Teething, Convulsions & Premature Births	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
		.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
All other	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Diseases	9	1	.....	.....	.....	1	2	5	8	10	9	1	.....	46
	15	6	3	7	.....	3	18	17	24	26	30	5		154

TABLE VI

Deaths and Births registered during the year ending December 31st, 1893.

BIRTHS.	Males.	Females.	TOTALS.
FULWOOD	35	28	63
WORKHOUSE	25	20	45
BARRACKS	10	12	22
	70	60	130

DEATHS.	Males.	Females.	TOTALS.
FULWOOD	12	20	32
WORKHOUSE	76	78	154
BARRACKS	6	3	9
CONVENT LITTLE SISTERS	2	1	3
	96	102	198